

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

AID-05 EB-07 /069 W

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R 100620Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3130

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 3208

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEAN, PFOR, ID, US

SUBJECT: U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD ASEAN

1. DURING VISIT OF DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY MILLER TO JAKARTA MARCH 8-9 SUBJECT AROSE IN CONVERSATIONS WITH INDONESIANS OF U.S. PUBLIC POSTURE TOWARD ASEAN.

2. PRIMARY CONVERSATIONS WERE WITH BRIGADIER GENERAL ADENAN, HEAD OF EAST ASIAN SECTION OF FOREIGN DEPARTMENT, AND BRIGADIER GENERAL NOERMANLI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INDONESIAN ASEAN SECRETARIAT. IN BOTH CASES QUESTION RE USG PUBLIC POSITION ON ASEAN WAS PUT IN TERMS OF STRONG U.S. BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH EACH ASEAN COUNTRY BUT CORRESPONDING DESIRE TO AVOID UNNECESSARY EMBARRASSMENT TO ASEAN.

3. BOTH MEN SEPARATELY EXPRESSED AS THEIR PERSONAL OPINION THAT IN PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES UNITED STATES SHOULD REMAIN OFFICIALLY SILENT ON ASEAN DEVELOPMENTS. ADENAN COM-
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MENTED THAT U.S. STILL TOO CLOSELY IDENTIFIED WITH

INDOCHINA PROBLEM.

4. NOERMANLI STATED EVEN MORE STRONGLY THAT U.S. SHOULD MAKE NO STATEMENTS AND RAISED AS HIS PERSONAL VIEW DOUBT THAT IT WAS EVEN IN ASEAN INTERESTS TO HAVE ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS WITH U.S. FOR TIME BEING. HE POINTED OUT THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH EEC WERE POSSIBLE BECAUSE THEY WERE WITH "NO SINGLE COUNTRY."

5. COMMENT: WE DOUBT THAT ASEAN SENSITIVITIES WILL EXTEND TO OPPOSITION TO ULTIMATE ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS WITH U.S. VIEWS OF ADENAN AND NOERMANLI, HOWEVER, SUGGEST THAT AT LEAST AS FAR AS INDONESIA IS CONCERNED POLICY OF U.S. RESTRAINT ON REFERENCES TO ASEAN IS WELCOME. BOTH MEN SPOKE IN FRIENDLY TERMS AND SEEMED TO APPRECIATE U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD ASEAN.
NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976JAKART03208
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760090-0397
From: JAKARTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760377/aaaacphv.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2004 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD ASEAN
TAGS: PFOR, ID, US, ASEAN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006